

ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center

Media Monitoring for Infectious and Emerging Diseases

ASEAN REGION

April 30 – May 01, 2024



This report is the result of media monitoring on infectious and emerging diseases happening around the world and among the ASEAN Member States. In order to improve pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response in the ASEAN Region. We provide this report three times a week starting from January 2024.

Global Situation

Chikungunya

- **India:** Chikungunya is posing a greater threat in the city than dengue, with eight patients found in Doon Hospital so far (Bureau, D., 2024). Two new cases were discovered, and four patients were found in the Outpatient Department (OPD) and Inpatient Department (IPD). Four of these patients are positive, but their records are not being recorded. [[Full article](#)]

COVID-19

- The **United States (US):** The state reported 1,440 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases, up from 854 last week (Wilkinson, M., 2024). However, records show over 500 of those occurred before April, including 458 from late 2023 through February. The number of confirmed COVID-19-positive hospital patients fell to 137, down 7% from the previous week. Since mid-January, case numbers and hospitalizations have fallen dramatically, with COVID-19 being a suspected cause of over 44,900 deaths in Michigan and over 7 million worldwide. [[Full article](#)]

Dengue

- **Bangladesh:** Dengue cases in Bangladesh have reached 2,209 this year, with 24 deaths reported in the last 24 hours (Pratidin, B., 2024). Despite no deaths, 24 people have been admitted to hospitals. The Health Department reported 6 cases in Dhaka, with 130 patients undergoing treatment in various hospitals. [[Full article](#)]
- **Fiji:** The Levuka Hospital has reported 72 cases of dengue fever, with no deaths so far this year, according to the Ministry of Health (Shaw, W., 2024). The majority of cases were in the 10-19 age group and from Ovalau communities. The Lomaiviti subdivision outbreak response team has upscaled their public health response with site-specific and community-wide awareness and information sessions. [[Full article](#)]
- **India:** District Medical Officer (DMO) warns of an increasing dengue incidence in the district due to recent summer rain (Bureau, T.H., 2024). As many as 651 cases have been confirmed since January, with most from Chungathara, Urangattiri, Pothukal, Kavanur, Areekode, Chaliyar, Thrikkalangodu, and Odakkayam panchayats. An intensive vector control programme is planned in May. [[Full article](#)]



Diphtheria

- **Africa:** Diphtheria cases have reached 8,124 in five African Union Member States, with Nigeria leading the list with 5,642 cases (Herriman, 2024). The disease, caused by *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* bacteria, can cause severe symptoms such as sore throat, mild fever, and swollen neck glands. The toxin can also cause heart, nerve, and kidney problems. In 2023, 27,346 cases were reported from six countries, including 797 deaths. Despite treatment, 1 in 10 patients with respiratory diphtheria die, and up to half can die without treatment. [\[Full article\]](#)

Pertussis

- **France:** A three-week-old infant in Nice died from whooping cough in April 2024 (NG, avec, 2024). Since then, ten cases have been recorded and four infants have been admitted to intensive care. The Lenval Foundation emphasizes the importance of vaccination, with early primary vaccinations from 2 months and boosters at 6 years, 11-13 years, and adulthood. [\[Full article\]](#)
- The **United Kingdom (UK):** Whooping Cough, also known as the 100-day cough, is on the rise again after March saw the highest rate of the potentially dangerous disease for ten years (Richard Evans, 2024). Public Health Wales has warned that there were more cases in Wales in one week of March 2024 than the whole of 2021 and 2022 combined. Public Health Wales figures show there were 55 reported cases of whooping cough in 2021, 55 in 2022, and 199 in 2023. In the four weeks from March 4, there were 315 cases. This included 122 cases in a single week, starting March 11. This number is more than 2021 and 2022 combined. The actual numbers are likely far higher as many cases go unreported. [\[Full article\]](#)

Regional Situation

COVID-19

- **Thailand:** From April 21 to 27, 1,672 Covid patients were admitted to hospitals, with nine dying (Nation, T., 2024). The death rate increased three times, while the number of patients with lung infections rose 33.6%. 148 patients needed ventilators, and the number of those on ventilators increased 46.5%. [\[Full article\]](#)

Dengue

- **Indonesia:** Dengue virus infection cases in the Banyuwangi Health Service have reached 1,243 cases from January to April (Rohman, 2024). The spike in cases is particularly noticeable in Srono District, where 132 cases were recorded. Muncar District has seen a decline, with 98 cases now. [\[Full article\]](#)

Indonesia: Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) patients at Tamansari General Hospital in West Jakarta are increasing monthly, with a total of 123 people infected from January to April 2024 (Pratama, 2024). Head of Medical Services Section at Tamansari Hospital, reported that there were eight patients in January, 14 in February, 45 in March, and 55 in April 2024. As of April 24, there were 14 patients still undergoing medical treatment at the hospital. [\[Full article\]](#)



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